

"we are one"

**VIOLETTE FAMILY
ASSOCIATION**



President's Message

John Violette, Bow, NH

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Tom Daley for the three years he served as president of the Violette Family Association. You did a great job, Tom. On behalf of the entire family I want to say Thank You!

We had a very good Violette Family Reunion this past July and I would like to thank Judy Trudo and her committee for doing a great job in planning and organizing it. They met over a three year period and planned activities from Friday afternoon when people started arriving to Sunday noon when most of them left. Those of us who attended the reunion had a great time.

In organizing a reunion of this type a certain number of assumptions had to be made which would dictate the size of facility that could accommodate us etc. The problem we ran into is we planned for about two hundred or more people and only one hundred twenty five or so showed up. We needed to commit a certain amount of money as a guarantee and when people don't show up it makes for some very creative financing. Whether a band plays for two hundred people or one hundred people the price is the same. Those of you who have had the opportunity to plan a wedding reception or similar function know very well what I'm talking about. If anyone knows a good way to solve this problem before the next reunion takes place, please let us know.

The generosity of those who attended kept us from going in the red. Many bought more raffle tickets, shirts, hats, etc. than they would have otherwise, and we also received some very generous donations. Now it's your turn. It costs about \$850 every time we send out a newsletter like the one you're reading. We don't have membership dues as income so the money we use to send out newsletters comes out of the profits made from the reunion, if any, and from individual donations. Since the attendance at the last reunion was not as good as we had expected, it cost us more money than we charged so we ran a deficit. Now we need your help. If you haven't sent in a donation in recent years we would like you to seriously consider doing so. At the annual meeting when the subject of dues was brought up the members in attendance indicated they would rather stay with the donation system we presently have in place. So it's time for you to act now. You can send your check, made out to the Violette Family Association, to our treasurer: Louiselle Violette 12 Woodland Circle, Bow, NH 03304. Anything you can give would be greatly appreciated. By the way, we still very much want you as members so if you can't afford to send a donation that's okay too. You'll still continue getting the newsletters.

The next Violette Family Reunion will take place in Edmundston, New Brunswick or Madawaska, Maine the second week-end in August, 2002. Both towns are across the St. John River from each other. St. Basil, N.B. is right next door to Edmundston and that

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was the original parish for that region in the nineteenth century and is where a lot of the original parish records are kept. It is also only twenty-five miles from Van Buren, Maine which is the cradle of the Violette Family. Harold Violette from Madawaska graciously accepted being chairman of the next reunion and he is busy setting up a committee of family members in that general area to help him out. If you live in that area and could give a helping hand I'm sure Harold would like to hear from you. He can be contacted at (207) 728-4851.

When I was growing up my father used to tell me that I was John a Lawrence a Joe a Frederic a Beloni a Francis. So most of my genealogy had been passed on to me by word of mouth. It turned out that Francis was Francois and his father was Francois as well. An old farmer who lived close to us used to insist that it was Francis a Rosimond. As it turned out he was wrong because Rosimond was Beloni's older brother and I'm happy to say that both are pictured in Rita Lippe's book. One is on page 25 and the other on page 27. The reason I'm bringing this up is although some of us may have known our genealogy, or thought we did, it's great that we have a family association to bind us together and enlighten us regarding the genealogy of our family. As your newly elected president I hope to be able to do my part in keeping this organization going.

New Officers Selected At Our Last Reunion

PRESIDENT John R. Violette 12 Woodland Circle Bow, NH 03304 Tel # (603) 225 - 9672 jrviolette@aol.com	TREASURER Louiselle C. Violette 12 Woodland Circle Bow, NH 03304 Tel # (603) 225 - 9672 louisellev@aol.com
VICE PRESIDENT Harold W. Violette 11 - 11 th Avenue Madawaska, ME 04756 Tel # (207) 728 - 4851 harold@fraserfcu.org	SECRETARY Rita A. Daley * 33 Enterprise St. #2A Duxbury, MA 02332 Tel # (781) 934 - 2982 rtdaley1@prodigy.net

* Please notice that your Secretary moved from Bedford, NH to Duxbury, MA. If you have moved or you know any of your relatives have moved since our last Newsletter, please mail or e-mail the information to our Secretary. Thanks to all.

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Family Association and Genealogy



Rod Violette, San Mateo, CA

A family association such as ours has many reasons for being. Firstly, it provides a means for people of kindred spirits to get together periodically to share and relive our experiences relating to the Violette family. Secondly, it enables us to learn more of our family background, where we came from, and what we have accomplished. Thirdly, it provides a means of recording our family history by means of genealogy records. This is the function in which I am very interested. Many moons ago when Rita Lippe was gathering the family information for her now famous book, we became good friends, and I did what I could to help her collect the data. As soon as her book was published, I started putting the data into my computer program. The book contained about 9600 names. I have been building that data base ever since. This June I was asked by the Violette Family Association officers to incorporate all the information sent in to the Association since it's formation, obituaries, marriage announcements and most importantly, all the Member Data Forms that you took the time to fill out. This added another 750 names to the data base. With continuous research on various branches of my family my data base now includes 25,000 names.

I strongly believe that once that information is gathered, it should be made available, at a reasonable cost, to any member of the association that requests it. In return for a current Family Information Form, and a contribution of \$5.00 to the Violette Family Association, I will send you a copy of your direct Violette lineage to Francois, along with the associated Family Group Records. The entire data base will also be available via a GEDCOM file, which requires a computer to read, but not in printed form (too many pages).

When sending in your Family Data Forms, please make every effort to include your father and mother's names, date and place of marriage, and most importantly all married women's maiden name (the name she was born with) this is particularly important in this day and age when multiple marriages and divorce are occurring. Writing out the month in the date, vg. Jan. Feb. etc. would also help avoid confusion.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Origin of Names

Rod Violette, San Mateo, CA



In early times citizens had but one name, their Christian name. By the 10th century the lords adapted the custom of adding the name of their land holdings as their surnames. Thus you had names such as Jacques de Picardie becoming Jacques Picard. When the Jacques of Picardie became too numerous, that brought about the use of the father's name as a surname, such as Jacques de Bernard etc.. In some countries "son of " is indicated by a prefix or a suffix such as O'Neil or Neilson. The lords were soon imitated by the lesser nobles and the bourgeoisie. Then citizens took advantage of any event to tag a distinctive name to themselves. Thus we have names such as Forest, Boisvert, Desjardins, Poirier, etc.

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We do not know the origin of the Violet name, but one can speculate. Did the Violets come from an area where a lot of violet flowers grew, or perhaps the name came from the color of their feet and legs after stomping on grapes all day. I have seen the Violet name in various parts of France. I have a photograph from the south of France showing the archway to an estate with the name "Le Compte de Violette" inscribed on it. I drink an excellent wine called Les Violettes from the Cotes du Rhone.

It was not until the 12th century that names were passed on from father to son. In 1406 a church synod ordered the parish priests to keep a record of baptisms, and by 1464 to register marriages and deaths as well. In 1539 King Francois 1st decreed the establishment of state civil registers, then the births, marriages and deaths of all citizens had to be registered. Each citizen when born received the name of his father and bore that name on his tomb. In 1614 France decreed that noblemen had to sign their family name, and no more the name of their lands on official documents. In 1790 the Government of the French Revolution ordered all citizens to use no other name but their true family name.

Just thought you would like to know.

Birth Announcements



Congratulations!

- ⊕ Sebastien Marcel Violette born February 26, 1997 to Margurite (Briere) Violette (#1555) and Marcel A. Violette (#1554) of RR #1 Val-Rita, On Canada P0L2G0
- ⊕ Erich Anderson Steiner born April 12, 1999 to Sherri Lynn (Fortin) Steiner (#1715) and Craig Anderson Steiner. Jeanna Leigh Steiner born June 26, 1995 is the proud big sister.



Deceased Members

- † Placide Violette 94, (#184) father of Rachel A. Corbett (#1652) of 47 Violette Hill Portland, ME 04102 passed away on March 11, 1999.
- † Violet Violette (#285) formerly from Augusta, ME. Mail returned marked deceased. Can anyone send me an update on Violet?
- † Vinal M. Violette 78, (#503) passed away July 21, 1999 in Las Vegas, NV.
- † Lorraine L. Keegan 78, (# 736) formerly from Van Buren, ME, passed away November 8, 1999

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- † Annette Violette (# 798) from Van Buren, ME passed away June 12, 1999
- † Rosaire Violette 70, (#836) husband of Muriel Violette (# 837) 42 Lorraine Ave. Brewer, ME 04412, passed away on October 28, 1999.
- † Arthur Dube 87, (#1152) husband of Donalda Dube (#1151) 8 Beechwood Road Vernon, CT 06066, passed away on August 31, 1999.

In Search Of....



Can anyone help us find these members of our family?

# 117	Nancy Gordon	San Antonio, TX
# 133	Arthur Bilodeau	Hollowell, ME
# 225	Anita Violette	Edmundston, NB
# 335	Constance Foye	Westbrook, ME
# 365	Lucien Violette	Edmundston, NB
# 442	Galen Violette	Medford, MA
# 466	Jeannette Deschenes	Madawaska, ME
# 788	Micheline Levesque	Drummond, NB
# 894	Violet Gurchy	Grand Falls, NB
# 994	Guy Cyr	Grand Falls, NB
# 1039	Jean Violette	Grand Falls, NB
# 1047	Bernice Richard	St. Laurent, PQ
# 1171	Lorraine Violette	Montreal, QC
# 1571	Germaine Dube	Mississauga, ON
# 1579	Gilles Cadrin	Levis, PQ
# 1582	Sara Sawyer	Chichester, NH
# 1620	Normand Violette	West Hartford, CT
# 1717	Norbert Violette	Patrick AFB, FL

Thank You

Tom Daley, Duxbury, MA



I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who assisted us during the past three years in updating our data base and keeping us informed about what was going on in their lives. I especially want to thank those who attended our reunion and took such an active role during our open business meeting. You made many important suggestions that will help us in keeping the VIOLETTE FAMILY ASSOCIATION intact and growing. Again, I thank all our members and give special thanks to our past group of officers who worked so hard during our three years. Looking forward to seeing everyone up in Maine in 2002.